

Patent Claims

A¹ What is claimed is:Sub
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1. A method of monitoring for availability of a system function in a computer system, according to which
- 5 - a database of the computer system stores, for a system function monitored for availability, respective information which describes the conditions under which the availability of a system function is to be assessed as existing or no longer existing,
- 10 - the aforementioned information is used, when a change in the state of a component of the computer system has taken place or is intended, to assess whether this results or would result in a change in terms of the availability of the aforementioned system function.
- 15 2. A method of monitoring for availability of a system function in a computer system, according to which
- 20 - a system function for monitoring for availability is prescribed by marking in a database of the system the component mappers for the components which contribute to the availability of the aforementioned system function,
- 25 - the component mappers marked as such are used, when a change in the state of a component has taken place or is intended, to assess whether this results or would result in a change in the availability of the aforementioned system function.
- 30 3. A method of monitoring for availability of a system function in a computer system, according to which
- 35 - the respective current (functional) state of a (system) component is recorded for said (system) component in the database,

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- 5 - in addition, the database records, for each system component, whether said component contributes to the availability of a system function monitored for availability, and, if so, for which system function or system functions,

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5 - when a change in the state of a component of the system has taken place or is intended, the data stored in the database for the other system components are used to assess whether the availability of a system function monitored for availability changes or would change as a result of the aforementioned change.

10 4. A method of monitoring for availability of a system function in a computer system, according to which

15 - a stipulation regarding which system function is monitored for availability is used to mark, among the components of the system which are mapped in the database, those components which are necessary for the availability of the system function,

- in addition, the respective state of the components of the system which are mapped in the database is marked for said components,

20 - when a change in the state of a component has taken place or is intended, an assessment is made of whether this results or would result in a change in the availability of the aforementioned system function.

25 5. The method as claimed in one of claims 2 to 4, characterized in that the database stores, for each system function regarded as being relevant to availability, information which describes the conditions under which the availability of a system function is to be assessed as existing or
30 no longer existing.

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6. An availability monitoring component in a computer system, which, when a change in the state of a component of the system has taken place or is intended, uses information stored in the database to assess whether this changes or would change the availability of a system function, where, for this purpose, the database indicates for each data map for a component whether the mapped component contributes to the availability of a system function, and, if so, to which system function or system functions.
7. The availability monitoring component as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the availability monitoring component additionally makes the aforementioned assessment on the basis of particular conditions which are stored in the database for each system function regarded as being relevant to availability.
8. A computer system, having
- a stipulation means which can stipulate for the system which system function is to be monitored for availability,
 - a component map which, for a component, records in the database whether said component is at all necessary for a system function monitored for availability and for which system function it is necessary, and which also records for the component the respective (functional) state thereof,
 - an assessment means which uses the aforementioned records made in a component map to assess whether a change in the state of a component which has taken place or is intended has resulted or would result in a change in the availability of the aforementioned system function.

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